

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated January 8, 2009 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

By this Amendment, Applicants amend claims 12, 20, and 21 and cancel claims 15-19 without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, claims 12 and 20-25 are currently pending, of which claims 1-11 and 34-40 are withdrawn as the result of an earlier restriction requirement. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 12 and 15-25 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 10-16 of copending U.S. Patent Application No. 10/699,854. Claims 12 and 15 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 10-16 of copending U.S. Patent Application No. 10/717,717 in view of ASA. Without conceding the propriety of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to timely advance the prosecution of the present application, Applicants have submitted a timely filed terminal disclaimer concurrently herewith. Accordingly, the Examiner's rejection based on U.S. Patent Application No. 10/699,854 and U.S. Patent Application No. 10/717,717 should be withdrawn. In view of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting.

In Office Action, claims 12 and 15-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. In view of the claims as presently amended, applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. The claims have been amended to comply with written description requirement, as required by the Examiner in the Office Action. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

In the Office Action, claims 12 and 15-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over ASA in view of Japanese Patent Publication No. JP05-345,160 (hereinafter, "JP'160") and further in view of Japanese Patent Publication No. JP2003-142816 (hereinafter,

“JP’816”). Claims 12 and 15-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over ASA in view of Japanese Patent Publication No. JP05-345,160 (hereinafter, “JP’160”) and further in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0081077 to Nakamura et al. (hereinafter, “Nakamura”).

The rejection of claims 12 and 15-25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over ASA in view of JP’160 and further in view of JP’816 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. The rejection of claims 12 and 15-25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over ASA in view of JP’160 and further in view of Nakamura is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Claim 12 is allowable at least in that each of this claim recites a combination of elements, including, for example, “providing a table having a first alignment mark on which a substrate is loaded”, “detecting the image of the first alignment mark in a second display unit using a second image camera, the image of the first alignment mark is detected to the second image camera through the substrate”, and “moving the second image camera along at least one of X- and Y- directions to align the image of the first alignment mark with a second reference position using the second display unit.” None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least these features of the claimed invention.

As shown in Figs.4A-4E of ASA, the position of the syringe is controlled using the alignment marks formed in a dummy substrate. In other word, in ASA two alignment marks are formed on the dummy substrate and the position of the syringe is aligned to the dispensing position by detecting two alignment marks on the dummy substrate and moving the table on which the dummy substrate is loaded. On the contrary, in the claimed invention, the alignment marks are formed on the table and the alignment plate. Thus, since the position of two alignment marks of the claimed invention is different from that of ASA.

Further, in the claimed invention, since the substrate is loaded on the table having alignment mark, the alignment mark is disposed under the loaded substrate. The alignment mark under the loaded substrate is detected to the image camera through the loaded substrate. In other word, in the claimed invention, the position of the syringe can be controlled while the substrate is loaded on the table. However, the cited references this technical feature is not shown. Thus, the cited references fails to teach or suggest at least “providing a table having a first alignment mark

on which a substrate is loaded” and “detecting the image of the first alignment mark in a second display unit using a second image camera, the image of the first alignment mark is detected to the second image camera through the substrate.”

Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that claim 12 and claims 20-25, which depend from claim 12, are allowable over the cited references.

Since the rejected claims 15-19 are cancelled, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 15-19.

Applicants believe the application is in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

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Respectfully submitted,

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